

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Response is being filed in reply to the Office Action dated May 4, 2007. Applicants hereby request a one-month extension of time to extend the period of response to and including September 4, 2007.

By the present amendment, claims 1 and 8 have been amended and claims 7, 9, and 17-33 have been canceled. Claims 1-6, 8, and 10-16 are pending in the application. No new matter has been added. Applicant reserves the option to further prosecute the canceled claims in subsequent patent applications.

Allowable Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Office Action indicated that claims 11-16 are allowed and that claims 7, 8, and 10 recite allowable subject matter.

Rejection of Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Herold (U.S. Patent Publication No. 20020169363). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of canceled claim 7, which is indicated by the Office Action to be allowable. Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1.

For at least this reason, Applicant requests that the rejection of independent claim 1, and claims 2-5 dependent thereon, over Herold be withdrawn.

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Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance is requested. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with the Applicant's attorney would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (508) 880-8488.

Respectfully submitted,

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